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Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01998 230046Z
ACTION L-03

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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TAGS: PFOR, UN, UK, EI, DA, LU, BE, NL, IT, GW, FR
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SYG ON NON-USE OF FORCE

REF: STATE 131484

NETHERLANDS MISSION HAS TRANSMITTED FOLLOWING VIEWS
ON NON-USE OF FORCE ON ITS BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF THE
NINE:

QUOTE NO. 3941

THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF
THE NETHERLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND, WITH
REFERENCE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE PO 112(7) OF 21
DECEMBER 1976, HAS THE HONOUR TO CONVEY TO THE LATTER THE
VIEWS OF THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT ON THE QUESTION OF
THE CONCLUSION OF A WORLD TREATY ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE NINE STATES MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE 31ST SESSION OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 28 OCTOBER 1976 THE NETHERLANDS
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01998 230046Z

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE STRESSED THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE
OF THE PRINCIPLE LAID DOWN IN ARTICLE 2, PARAGRAPH 4
OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WHICH PROHIBITS
THE THREAT OR USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND THEREBY REPRESENTS ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE
UNITED NATIONS. THIS PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN CONFIRMED ON SEVERAL
OCCASIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS AS

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

WELL AS IN THE FINAL ACT ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE, BUT NONE OF THESE LATER INSTRUMENTS HAVE CHANGED THE POSITION IN INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE CHARTER ARTICLE.

FOR THIS SAME REASON THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT IS FAR FROM PERSUADED THAT A TREATY AS PROPOSED BY THE UNION OF SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLICS WOULD BE USEFUL. SUCH A TREATY WOULD NOT ADD SUBSTANCE TO THE AFOREMENTIONED PRINCIPLE, BUT MIGHT ON THE CONTRARY TEND TO OBSCURE THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

IT WAS FURTHERMORE POINTED OUT BY THE NETHERLANDS REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 24, 1976, THAT, IF THE PROPOSAL WERE TO BE SUPPOSED TO CREATE NEW LEGAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE NETHERLANDS WOULD CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE THAT THE DRAFT TREATY BE FURTHER EXAMINED IN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

FINALLY THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY WOULD MOST USEFULLY BE SERVED BY CONCRETE PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AS WELL AS BY THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF EXISTING POLITICAL DISPUTES.

THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF
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THE NETHERLANDS AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

NEW YORK, JUNE 21, 1977 UNQUOTE
YOUNG

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Disposition Comment:
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Retention: 0
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TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, NL, XT, XX, UN, EEC
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